

the carrot to encourage teachers to go into the math and science field. As I say, the bill was here last year. It was an amendment to another bill. It proved unworkable, so we tried to clean it up. I'll try to explain briefly what it does. The idea is to make a grant to a student to take some math and science courses to get qualified for teaching math and science, and then have this forgiven, provided the teacher spends some time in the classroom. Just briefly, the scholarship program is to be funded from the school weatherization fund and on and after July 1, 1986, from the school foundation and equalization fund. We're not talking about a large sum of money at the present time. The bill comes from the school weatherization fund which is not from the general fund. It comes from the severance tax. I don't believe it's going to make much of a dent in the weatherization program because there is a lot of money in that program, and they'll never miss a small amount for scholarships for a purpose that is, I think, a very worthy cause. It places the responsibility of administration of the program with the State Department of Education. It states that the criteria for scholarship eligibility must include, but not be limited to the following. First, the recipient must be a Nebraska citizen. Second, the recipient must be enrolled in a Nebraska college which offers an accredited teachers training program. Three, the recipient must be admitted to the college's teacher training program. Four, the recipient must be enrolled in a program leading to endorsement as a math or science teacher. Five, primary consideration shall be given to students closest to completion of the teacher education program. Secondary consideration shall be given to students with the greatest academic promise. No recipient shall receive assistance for more than six enrollment periods, which would make a total of \$3,000. No recipient shall receive more than \$500 per enrollment period. For the purpose of this act an enrollment period means spring or fall semester, or a summer session. Terms of the loan. The loan is interest free until the recipient has completed the program and begins teaching math or science in Nebraska secondary schools. At the end of each semester the oldest promissory note for one enrollment period is forgiven. This cancellation is considered to be an incentive payment to increase the number